

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 5009, Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to S. 4367, Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

(Legislative Day of Monday, December 16, 2024)

*Routine Proceedings, pages S7121–S7185*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-six bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 5576–5601, S. Res. 933–934, and S. Con. Res. 44–46.

Pages S7179–80

#### Measures Reported:

S. 3312, to provide a framework for artificial intelligence innovation and accountability, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3879, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of red snapper imported into the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4178, to establish artificial intelligence standards, metrics, and evaluation tools, to support artificial intelligence research, development, and capacity building activities, to promote innovation in the artificial intelligence industry by ensuring companies of all sizes can succeed and thrive, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 4596, to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a public awareness and education campaign to provide information regarding the benefits of, risks relating to, and the prevalence of artificial intelligence in the daily lives of individuals in the United States, with an amendment.

S. 4769, to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to develop

voluntary guidelines and specifications for internal and external assurances of artificial intelligence systems, with amendments. **Page S7179**

#### Measures Passed:

**Enrollment Correction:** Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 44, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 5009. **Page S7133**

**Colorado River Basin System Conservation Extension Act:** Senate passed S. 4576, to amend the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, to reauthorize the Colorado River System conservation pilot program. **Page S7133**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Extension:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of S. 3373, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the time period during which licensees are required to commence construction of certain hydropower projects, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7133–34**

Hickenlooper (for Daines) Amendment No. 3343, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7134**

**Drought Preparedness Act:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4385, to extend authorization of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991, and the bill was then passed. **Page S7134**

**Water Monitoring and Tracking Essential Resources (WATER) Data Improvement Act:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5770, to reauthorize certain United States Geological Survey water data enhancement programs, and the bill was then passed. **Page S7134**

**Modernizing Access to Our Public Waters Act:** Senate passed S. 3123, to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7145–46**

**Land Manager Housing and Workforce Improvement Act:** Senate passed S. 5125, to provide for certain improvements to the housing and workforce programs of Federal land management agencies, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7146–48**

**Connect Our Parks Act:** Senate passed S. 2018, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an assessment to identify locations in National Parks in which there is the greatest need for broadband internet access service and areas in National Parks in which there is the greatest need for cellular service, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7148–49**

**Accelerating Appraisals and Conservation Efforts Act:** Senate passed H.R. 5443, to establish a policy regarding appraisal and valuation services for real property for a transaction over which the Secretary of the Interior has jurisdiction. **Page S7149**

**Salem Maritime National Historical Park Redesignation and Boundary Study Act:** Senate passed S. 961, to redesignate the Salem Maritime National Historic Site in Salem, Massachusetts, as the “Salem Maritime National Historic Park”. **Page S7149**

**Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument Access Act:** Senate passed S. 4209, to provide greater regional access to the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in the State of Maine. **Pages S7149–51**

**Amending the Act of June 22, 1948:** Senate passed S. 5595, to amend the Act of June 22, 1948. **Page S7145**

**North Dakota Trust Lands Completion Act:** Senate passed S. 1088, to authorize the relinquishment and in lieu selection of land and minerals in the State of North Dakota, to restore land and minerals to Indian Tribes within the State of North Dakota, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7153–55**

**Big Bend National Park Boundary Adjustment Act:** Senate passed S. 1059, to adjust the boundary of Big Bend National Park in the State of Texas. **Page S7155**

**Nulhegan River and Paul Stream Wild and Scenic River Study Act:** Senate passed S. 432, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate the Nulhegan River and Paul Stream in the State of Vermont for potential addition to the national wild and scenic rivers system. **Page S7155**

**Deerfield River Wild and Scenic River Study Act:** Senate passed S. 608, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the Deerfield River for potential addition to the national wild and scenic rivers system. **Pages S7155–56**

**Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Museum Artifacts Act:** Senate passed S. 4129, to contribute funds and artifacts to the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora, North Dakota, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7156**

**Plum Island Preservation Study Act:** Senate passed S. 5136, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of Plum Island, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S7156**

Schumer (for Blumenthal) Amendment No. 3344, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7156–62**

**Chesapeake National Recreation Area Act:** Senate passed S. 2620, to establish the Chesapeake National Recreation Area as a unit of the National Park System, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7151–52**

**Vicksburg National Military Park Boundary Modification Act:** Senate passed S. 4994, to modify the boundary of the Vicksburg National Military Park in the State of Mississippi. **Page S7153**

**American Samoa:** Senate passed H.R. 6062, to restore the ability of the people of American Samoa to approve amendments to the territorial constitution based on majority rule in a democratic act of self-determination, as authorized pursuant to an Act of Congress delegating administration of Federal territorial law in the territory to the President, and to the Secretary of the Interior under Executive Order 10264, dated June 29, 1951, under which the Constitution of American Samoa was approved and may be amended without requirement for further congressional action, subject to the authority of Congress under the Territorial Clause in article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the United States Constitution. **Page S7165**

**Alaska Native Village Municipal Lands Restoration Act:** Senate passed S. 2615, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Village Corporations shall not be required to convey land in trust to the State of Alaska for the establishment of Municipal Corporations. **Pages S7165–66**

**Sloan Canyon Conservation and Lateral Pipeline Act:** Senate passed S. 2042, to amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7166**

**Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act Amendments Act:** Senate passed S. 1760, to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the city of North Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7166–67**

**Utah Wildfire Research Institute Act:** Senate passed S. 2151, to amend the Southwest Forest Health and Wildlife Prevention Act of 2004 to require the establishment of an additional Institute under that Act. **Page S7167**

**Upper Colorado River Basin Fund:** Senate passed S. 5000, to provide for a memorandum of understanding to address the impacts of a certain record of decision on the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute and the committee amendment to the title. **Pages S7167–71**

**Club Q Shooting Anniversary:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 895, recognizing the second commemoration of the anti-LGBTQ+ attack that occurred on November 19–20, 2022, at Club Q, an LGBTQ+ bar in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S7171**

**Broadcasting and Recording Procedures of the Senate:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 934, amending the broadcasting and recording procedures of the Senate. **Page S7171**

**Enrollment Correction:** Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 46, providing for corrections in the enrollment of S. 4367. **Page S7171**

#### Measures Considered:

**Social Security Fairness Act—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 82, to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions. **Pages S7131–33**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 73 yeas to 27 nays (Vote No. 326), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Pages S7137–38**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all time during adjournment, recess, Morning Business, Leader remarks, and consideration of the House Message to accompany S. 4367 count post-cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S7185**

#### House Messages:

**Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025:** By 85 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. 325), Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 5009, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, after taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S7121–31**

Withdrawn:

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 3317 (to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill), to add an effective date. **Page S7131**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Schumer Amendment No. 3318 (to Amendment No. 3317), to add an effective date, fell when Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 3317 (listed above) was withdrawn. **Page S7131**

**Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act:** By 97 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 327), Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to S. 4367, to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, by the order of the Senate of Thursday, December 12, 2024, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative. **Pages S7162–65**

**America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act:** Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to S. 3791, to reauthorize the America's Conservation Enhancement Act. **Page S7171**

**Federal Agency Performance Act:** Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to S. 709, to improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government. **Page S7171**

#### Appointments:

**National Commission on the Future of the Navy:** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader and jointly with the Democratic Leader of the House, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–263, appointed the following individual to serve as Co-Chairperson of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy: The Honorable Filemon Vela of Texas. **Page S7172**

**Removal of Injunction of Secrecy:** The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Agreement Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (Treaty Doc. No. 118–2).

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed. **Page S7172**

#### Cheeks and Murillo Nominations—Agreement:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the cloture votes with respect to the nominations of Benjamin J. Cheeks, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Serena Raquel Murillo, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, occur upon disposition of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 82, to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions. **Page S7123**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S7178**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S7178**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Page S7179**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S7179**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S7180–81**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Page S7181**

**Additional Statements:** **Page**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S7184–85**

**Notices of Intent:** **Page S7185**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S7185**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S7185**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total—327) **Pages S7131, S7137–38, S7164–65**

**Recess:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and recessed at 8:38 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 19, 2024. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S7185.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### CLIMATE-DRIVEN INSURANCE CRISIS

**Committee on the Budget:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine the climate-driven insurance crisis, after receiving testimony from Benjamin J. Keys, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, Philadelphia; Ernest Shaghalian Jr., Butler and Messier Insurance Agency, Pawtucket, Rhode Island; and Robert P. Hartwig, University of South Carolina Darla Moore School of Business, Columbia.

### NOMINATIONS

**Committee on Finance:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James Bernard Coughlan, of Illinois, who introduced by Senator Durbin, and Halie L. Craig, of Pennsylvania, who was introduced by Senator Cruz, both to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### RESTORE PATENT RIGHTS ACT

**Committee on the Judiciary:** Subcommittee on Intellectual Property concluded a hearing to examine S.4840, to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a rebuttable presumption that a permanent injunction should be granted in certain circumstances, focusing on restoring America’s status as the global IP leader, after receiving testimony from Jacob Babcock, NuCurrent, Chicago, Illinois; Joshua Landau, Computer and Communications Industry Association, Washington, D.C.; Kristen Jakobsen Osenga, University of Richmond School of Law, Richmond, Virginia; and Jorge L. Contreras, University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, Salt Lake City, Utah.

### INTELLIGENCE

**Select Committee on Intelligence:** Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 47 public bills, H.R. 10465–10511; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 135; and H. Res. 1619–1621, were introduced.

**Pages H7358–59**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H7361–62**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4043, to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to make the District of Columbia eligible for certain wastewater infrastructure grants, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 118–897);

H.R. 9135, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to require certain air carriers to develop and regularly update an operational resiliency strategy, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–898);

H.R. 1209, to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–899);

H.R. 5798, to restore the right to negotiate matters pertaining to the discipline of law enforcement officers of the District of Columbia through collective bargaining, to restore the statute of limitations for bringing disciplinary cases against members or civilian employees of the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–900);

H.R. 7867, to amend the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish a limit for the total amount of additional unfunded regulatory costs that may be imposed in a fiscal year, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–901, Part 1);

H.R. 7533, to improve retrospective reviews of Federal regulations, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–902);

H.R. 4428, to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–903);

H.R. 262, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the publication, by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, of information relating to rulemakings, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–904, Part 1);

H.R. 7532, to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to establish Federal AI system

governance requirements, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–905);

H.R. 3230, to amend the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 to provide for regulatory impact analyses for certain rules, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–906, Part 1);

H.R. 1319, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop long-distance bike trails on Federal land (H. Rept. 118–907, Part 1);

H.R. 3562, to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to reauthorize Forest Service flexible partnerships, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–908, Part 1);

H.R. 3049, to provide for the exchange of certain Federal land and State land in the State of Utah (H. Rept. 118–909);

H.R. 5582, to provide for white oak restoration, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–910, Part 1);

H.R. 6342, to promote and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities for members of the Armed Forces and veterans on Federal recreational lands and waters, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–911, Part 1);

H.R. 5015, to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, to enter into contracts, grants, and agreements to carry out certain ecosystem restoration activities, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 118–912, Part 1);

H.R. 7003, to amend the National Landslide Preparedness Act to reauthorize such Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–913, Part 1);

H.R. 3283, to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to report to Congress on any barriers to establishing online portals to accept, process, and dispose of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–545, Part 2);

H.R. 4235, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to establish a wildfire technology testbed pilot program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–914, Part 1);

H.R. 6012, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to permit removal of trees around electrical lines on National Forest System land without conducting a timber sale, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–915, Part 1);

H.R. 7516, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to address liability for payment of

charges or costs associated with provision of purchased/referred care services, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–916, Part 1);

H.R. 3269, to modernize Federal firearms laws to account for advancements in technology and less-than-lethal weapons, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–917, Part 1)

H.R. 1419, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue a new rule removing the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem population of grizzly bears from the Federal list of endangered and threatened wildlife (H. Rept. 118–918);

H.R. 215, to provide long-term water supply and regulatory reliability to drought-stricken California, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–919);

H.R. 3173, to provide for transfer of ownership of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada, to authorize the disposal of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada for economic development, to promote conservation in northern Nevada, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–920, Part 1);

H.R. 6994, to require the reopening of covered recreation sites closed due to a natural disaster, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–921, Part 1);

H.R. 7408, to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–922, Part 1);

H.R. 5482, to prevent energy poverty and ensure that at-risk communities have access to affordable energy, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–923, Part 1);

H.R. 934, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out activities to suppress wildfires, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–924, Part 1);

H.R. 4374, to nullify Public Land Order No. 7923, withdrawing certain land in San Juan County, New Mexico, from mineral entry (H. Rept. 118–925);

H.R. 188, to direct the Secretary concerned to coordinate with impacted parties when conducting a forest management activity, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–926, Part 1);

H.R. 2989, to improve the health and resiliency of giant sequoias, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–927, Part 1); and

H. Con. Res. 34, expressing disapproval of the withdrawal by the Secretary of the Interior of approximately 225,504 acres of National Forest System

lands in Cook, Lake, and Saint Louis Counties, Minnesota, from disposition under the United States mineral and geothermal leasing laws (H. Rept. 118–928).  
**Pages H7356–57**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Strong to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.  
**Page H7321**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:47 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.  
**Page H7332**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:50 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.  
**Page H7339**

**Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Tuesday, December 17th.

**Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act:** S. 1351, to study and prevent child abuse in youth residential programs, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 373 yeas to 33 nays, Roll No. 512; and  
**Pages H7339–40**

**Jamul Indian Village Land Transfer Act:** S. 3857, to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Jamul Indian Village of California, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 369 yeas to 37 nays, Roll No. 513.  
**Page H7340**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**Detection Equipment and Technology Evaluation to Counter the Threat of Fentanyl and Xylazine Act:** Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 8663, to require the Science and Technology Directorate in the Department of Homeland Security to develop greater capacity to detect, identify, and disrupt illicit substances in very low concentrations, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 404 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 514;  
**Pages H7340–41**

**Beagle Brigade Act:** S. 759, to authorize the National Detector Dog Training Center, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 381 yeas to 20 nays, Roll No. 515;  
**Pages H7341–42**

**DHS Intelligence and Analysis Oversight and Transparency Act:** H.R. 8664, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an annual audit of the information systems and bulk data of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department; and  
**Pages H7343–44**

**Transportation Security Screening Modernization Act:** S. 3959, to require the Transportation Security Administration to streamline the enrollment

processes for individuals applying for a Transportation Security Administration security threat assessment for certain programs, including the Transportation Worker Identification Credential and Hazardous Materials Endorsement Threat Assessment programs of the Administration. **Pages H7345–48**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:58 p.m. and reconvened at 6 p.m. **Page H7348**

**Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 5009:** The House agreed by unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table and agree to S. Con. Res. 44, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 5009. **Page H7348**

**Commission on the Future of the Navy—Appointment:** The Chair announced the joint appointment by the Democratic Leader and Majority Leader of the Senate the following to serve as Co-Chair of the Commission on the Future of the Navy: Honorable Filemon Vela. **Pages H7348–49**

**Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

**Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act:** H.R. 9748, to require the Under Secretary of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions; and **Pages H7342–43**

**TSA Commuting Fairness Act:** H.R. 8662, to reduce commuting burdens on Transportation Security Administration employees. **Pages H7344–45**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 7:11 p.m. and reconvened at 10:31 p.m. **Page H7354**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, December 19th. **Page H7354**

**Senate Referrals:** S. 1097 was held at the desk. S. 1144 was held at the desk. S. 1277 was held at the desk. S. 1299 was held at the desk. S. 3022 was held at the desk. S. 3373 was held at the desk. S. 3502 was held at the desk. S. 3543 was held at the desk. S. 4181 was held at the desk. S. 4576 was held at the desk. S. 4654 was held at the desk. S. 5005 was held at the desk. S. 5130 was held at the desk. S. 5398 was held at the desk. S. 5575 held at the desk. **Page H7348**

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages 7348.

**Quorum Calls Votes:** Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7339–40, H7340, H7340–41, and H7341–42.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### EXAMINING THE POLAR SECURITY CUTTER: AN UPDATE ON COAST GUARD ACQUISITIONS

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “Examining the Polar Security Cutter: An Update on Coast Guard Acquisitions”. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Thomas G. Allan, Jr., Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, U.S. Coast Guard.

### AMERICAN CONFIDENCE IN ELECTIONS: PROHIBITING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE

*Committee on House Administration:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “American Confidence in Elections: Prohibiting Foreign Interference”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### IP AND STRATEGIC COMPETITION WITH CHINA: PART IV—PATENTS, STANDARDS, AND LAWFARE

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled “IP and Strategic Competition with China: Part IV—Patents, Standards, and Lawfare”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### REVISITING THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE FACE ACT: PART II

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government held a hearing entitled “Revisiting the Implications of the FACE Act: Part II”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### RESTORING CONGRESSIONAL POWER OVER VA AFTER LOPER BRIGHT ENTERPRISES V. RAIMONDO

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Restoring Congressional Power over VA After Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo”. Testimony was heard from Jonathan M. Gaffney, Supervisory Attorney, American Law Division, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

### TRADE WARS AND TARIFFS

*Joint Economic Committee:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine trade wars and tariffs, after receiving testimony from Edward Gresser, Progressive Policy Institute, Brendan Duke, Center for American Progress, and Erica York, Tax Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.; and Jeff Ferry, Coalition for a Prosperous America, Alexandria, Virginia.

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### NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1154)

S. 50, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to give priority consideration to selecting Pensacola and Perdido Bays as an estuary of national significance. Signed on December 17, 2024. (Public Law 118–152)

S. 310, to establish an advisory group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery relating to debris removal. Signed on December 17, 2024. (Public Law 118–153)

S. 1478, to designate United States Route 20 in the States of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming,

Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts as the “National Medal of Honor Highway”. Signed on December 17, 2024. (Public Law 118–154)

S. 2781, to promote remediation of abandoned hardrock mines. Signed on December 17, 2024. (Public Law 118–155)

S. 3475, to amend title 49, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of Transportation to designate an authorized operator of the commercial driver’s license information system. Signed on December 17, 2024. (Public Law 118–156)

S. 3613, to require Facility Security Committees to respond to security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service relating to facility security. Signed on December 17, 2024. (Public Law 118–157)

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

No hearings are scheduled.



*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Thursday, December 19

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Thursday, December 19

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate expects to continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 82, Social Security Fairness Act, post-cloture.

Roll call votes are expected during Thursday's session of the Senate.

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** To be announced.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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